

FISCAL UPDATE News Article

Fiscal Services Division
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BOARD OF REGENTS ADOPTS COMMON APPLICATION PORTAL

TIER Recommendation. One of the recommendations of the Board of Regents' TIER efficiency study was the need for a common application portal for high school students choosing to apply to two or all three of the state universities. Currently, students must apply to each of the universities separately.

Development of the Portal. A team of staff from the Board Office and each of the universities developed the proposal. Iowa State University will serve as the host institution for the system that will allow applicants to answer a series of questions common to all three universities, before being directed to each university to complete the process and pay the application fee. The development team continues to meet and anticipates further changes to the portal. The portal will be available July 1, 2015, at http://apply.regents.iowa.gov.

Development and Ongoing Costs. The cost to develop the portal in FY 2015 was approximately \$90,000, primarily in Information Technology (IT) costs. Cost for first-year implementation in FY 2016 is anticipated to be approximately \$200,000, including any additional changes needed throughout the year. Annual ongoing costs are expected to be approximately \$100,000, in addition to ongoing IT and other support costs for each of the admissions offices.

Publicizing the Portal. The development team has prepared materials for use in publicizing the portal to high schools. The Board Office will work with the universities in that effort and in monitoring and evaluating usage.

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